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ADVERTISING RATES

(All Rates Full Colour, incl 15% VAT)

Full Page - R7 546

Half Page - R4 661

Quarter Page - R2 593

1/8 page - R1 372

Smaller sizes: R105 per col cm

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(Black only: colour rate less 20%)

Booking discounts

Payment lumpsum in advance.

3 insertions - less 10%

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Circulation

More than 19 000 copies* distributed
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Smallholding settlements of

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* excluding on-line readers.

By Mail

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FRONT COVER

Rustic stone archways are one of the
features in the show gardens at the
Garden World Spring festival on now.

COMMENT, by Pete Bower

Recycle your waste!



In a move that puts it on a par ~ in this respect at least ~ with most progressive cities in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, the Johannesburg Municipality has decreed that residents must separate their waste for recycling.

Needless to say, this has sent the chattering class into a frenzy as it spews forth volumes of hot air about "why?" and "we pay our rates and taxes for this" and "it's another excuse for corruption" and

And, yes, there are certainly old or frail citizens for whom the burden of recycling might be a bridge too far. But for the vast majority of Joburg residents it shouldn't be too much to ask to separate recyclable waste from the wet and contaminated waste that should end up in a land-fill or an incinerator.

And here's a thought for Joburg residents bemoaning the new edict: they should be thankful they don't live in a German, or a Swiss, city where not only has recycling been a compulsory requirement for decades now, but there are different classes of recyclable waste, strictly segregated, and woe betide you if you get it wrong and inadvertently put a newspaper in with the cardboard, or a brown bottle in with the green. With Teutonic efficiency you will be found out, prosecuted and punished. And here's the best part: you will be named and shamed and will also face the scorn of your community for having been such a useless, thoughtless, careless "klutz".

Yes, waste has become a Big Issue. Only if you had been in a coma for the past three or four years would you have been unaware that the oceans have become huge receptacles of floating (and gradually sinking) plastic waste, much of which is eminently recyclable, but which is now far beyond the reach of anybody who can realistically and economically do anything about it.

Only if you had been in a coma for the past three or four years, too, would you have failed to notice that Gauteng's streets, pavements and fences are generally less festooned and littered with discarded yellow and white plastic shopping bags ~ the ubiquitous "checkers" ~ than they were a few years ago, thanks to the government levy on bags supplied by supermarkets and shops.

Likewise, you would have had to have been in a coma for the last few years not to have noticed the growing numbers of freelance recycling collectors eking out a living towing trolleys of plastic, paper, glass and board around the suburbs on garbage collection day, stuff which they have ferreted out of the dustbins of residents too lazy to recycle themselves. "There's money in muck," is an old Yorkshire saying.

So, given the waste problem faced by all on Planet Earth, recycling your waste, or at least separating it for recycling, should be second nature and is a good lesson in environmental stewardship to inculcate in your children. So if you are not already recycling you are actually not the kind of caring citizen this country desperately needs. And the excuse that "I don't recycle, because I let the waste pickers help themselves to the contents of my dustbin" doesn't count. For there's a helluva lot of waste in your dustbin that could have been recycled had it not been contaminated by food scraps, animal blood and the other wet, unsanitary stuff you've thrown away.

But maybe, just maybe, reading this will jolt you out of your slothfulness and shame you into changing your ways. What can you do, and how do you do it?

Simple, really. As you live on a plot you have plenty of space to store and process recyclables. We have written extensively about making your own compost, a valuable ingredient of which is all the organic matter generated in your kitchen. And we have written extensively on what packaging can easily be recycled in the home.

The trick is to recycle at source, rather than to wait till it's in the dustbin.

And if you are already recycling your waste, there are a couple of additional things that an active citizen should be doing, starting with lobbying your municipal councillor to introduce similar legislation to Joburg's in your municipality, and also insisting that the shops you buy from supply only environmentally-friendly packaging. For example, ask a restaurant for a paper, rather than a plastic, straw in your drink. Or ask for a paper shopping bag, or refuse the offer of a plastic one, or take your own re-usable bag.

In that way, one shop at a time, you will make a difference. And, gradually, the environment, and wildlife, will be saved, one stream at a time, then one river at a time, then one fish at a time, one turtle at a time and, eventually one ocean at a time. But it starts with you. At home, in your car, at a restaurant, in a shop. One piece of recyclable waste at a time.

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Richardia menace: 'I have a plan'

SIR ~ Some time back you had a question from a lady on the East Rand who was suffering from an infestation of a low-growing weed in her lawn and paddocks, which was identified as *Richardia brasiliensis*, commonly called just richardia. One solution was to spray it with a very strong dose of nitrogen-based fertilizer in the hope that the solution would burn the leaves dry, causing the plant to wither away. While this may indeed be the

solution to eradicating the weed from your lawn, I have another suggestion which will eradicate it from your paddocks, and that is to allow sheep to graze it away. Unlike horses, which grip the leaves and stems of grass with their teeth and rip them away the habit of sheep of nibbling leaves very close to the ground seems to do the trick and I enclose a photo in proof. At the bottom of the picture you will see the richardia clearly. This has not been grazed by sheep. In

contrast, in the adjoining paddock which is grazed by sheep the ground is entirely free of richardia. I acknowledge that letting a flock of sheep loose on your lawn may not be either practical or desirable, but having a couple of sheep among your mix of livestock is yet another example of the value of mixed-species grazing for the health of one's fields.

Reginald Atkins
Meyerton



Grazed away... At the bottom of the picture a patch of richardia shows as the slightly green plant, which has not been grazed. Alongside, on the other side of the fence, (upper part) is the richardia-free grazed field

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DA's Pta council gets SCA snotklap over rates

In what has been described as a "supreme irony", Pretoria's city council has been sent back to the drawing board following its attempt to enforce some outrageous property valuations ~ and thus unaffordable rake hikes ~ on smallholders in Pretoria East.

After some deliberation the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) finally rejected the Democratic Alliance-led Msimanga administration's appeal against a 2016 High Court judgement by which

the city's supplementary valuation rolls of 2012 and 2013 had been set aside. In doing so, the SCA affirmed the position the community had taken on the issue, one that the Msimanga administration described last year as an opinion based on "snake oil" legal advice.

This judgement provides financial relief for residents who opposed the council when their rates were increased ~ in many cases by up to 700% ~ by what has now been confirmed to have been an illegal re-categorisation process as part of the 2011 and 2013 supplementary valuation roll processes. Another consequence of the High Court judgement, that has been highlighted by the SCA in dismissing the appeal, is that it applies in favour of all property owners

affected by the same illegal process and the now invalidated supplementary valuation rolls.

The SCA also clarified the issue that the illegality overrides any later valuation rolls that are based on the original illegality. According to Lex Middelberg, former DA councillor at the time (and now chairman of a ratepayers lobby group named the Tshwane Money Matters Caucus) and who together with André van der Walt (also former councillor and former DA member) were delegated in 2012 by the DA caucus to lead the DA's opposition against the illegal category changes "It is a supreme irony that while the DA was in opposition at the time and had picked up the cudgels on behalf of the community to oppose the

illegal valuation rolls and category changes in council and assisted the community to form the "WeCanWin" consortium to oversee the community's legal challenge ~ that they changed sides after the Msimanga administration took office in 2016 and chose to oppose the very same litigation they started and with which they succeeded in the High Court, now arguing the ANC's

Continued on page 8



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NEWS

Something for everyone at Garden World show

As in previous years, Garden World's Spring Festival features a host of delights for the keen gardener, as well as presenting lots of ideas for anybody wishing to enhance their outdoor living space, however big or small it may be. Many of these ideas are to be found in the designer gardens erected specially for the

Festival by leading landscapers and designers throughout South Africa.

And, although the spaces allocated to each designer are of necessity small, approximating the garden space of the average townhouse, the ideas and features they contain can often be expanded or adapted to the larger expanses of garden

found on the average smallholding.

Every year's offering contains something new, and this year one garden has picked up on the growing trend among households to cultivate their own food, in the form of vegetables, herbs and fruit. And, knowing that many gardens have limited space, and are often unsuitable for a

traditional vegetable garden design of rows of cabbage, spinach, beans or beetroot, for example, the design on view at the festival incorporates vegetables and herbs into a traditional formal garden such as one might find in front of a stately home.

While some of the designer gardens feature outdoor living and leisure ideas, as well as water features etc, others concentrate on drought-resistant plants for water-scarce gardens, grasses and designs for a more rural feel.

Also featured are kids' gardens established by various schools, which aim to encourage the green fingers of the pupils.

In a break with the tradition of the past few years, in which Garden World in association with a sponsor would re-create the exhibit erected by the staff of the Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden in Cape Town at the Royal Horticultural Society's annual Chelsea Flower Show in London, Garden World has chosen this year to erect

Continued on page 11

RATES

From page 7

now arguing the ANC's position that the "illegal" category changes were after all legal ~ only because they ended up having to foot the unaffordable bill."

For more information: Lex Middelberg, 083 627-3713

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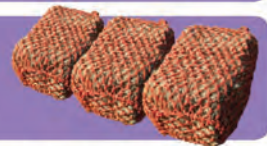
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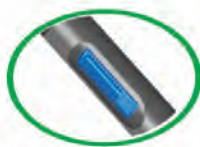


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Lush tranquility ... One of the many designer gardens, set among established trees, will give ideas for a quiet corner of your own garden.

From page 8

its own exhibit in the space dedicated to the Chelsea piece in former years. This year, therefore, it is a

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Chelsea exhibits before them, bring gasps of wonderment and delight to visitors.

In addition to the gardens of various types, the festival hosts a number of events, lectures

and entertainments, covering topics from beauty, home-making and cookery to musical recitals. Booking can be made through Garden World's office.

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Look out, also, for the Johannesburg Clivia Society's annual show which takes place at Garden World just after the festival closes in early September.

Dates for all Garden World events are to be found in

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ANIMAL HEALTH

The ABCs of livestock health management

A holistic approach to animal wellness on a plot goes a long way to creating optimum conditions for the good health of all its animals, an important consideration seeing as how there is a remarkable concentration of livestock resident in close proximity in any smallholding community. Indeed, many veterinarians rather alarmingly view smallholding areas as reservoirs of animal disease and infection.

Good management of pets and livestock includes the responsible use of medicines. A programme aimed at protecting animals from disease includes inoculation, deworming and dipping. With the onset of warmer weather the "immunity" provided by the cold temperatures of winter is behind us and the time to inoculate has, in many cases arrived ~ if not immediately, then certainly before the end of the year. When we inoculate we inject or introduce a serum, antigen, or a weakened form of a disease-producing pathogen into the body of the animal, to create immunity to the disease. The animal should therefore be in good health when taken for inoculation or vaccination. Do not vaccinate if the animal is stressed, exhausted, nutritionally deprived or has recently been ill. Certain vaccines should not be given to pregnant animals, so be sure to read

the labels.

Vaccines aren't miracle shields against disease, but they do bring about increased immunity against disease. Vaccines are made from either dead or weakened viruses (modified live – MLV) and are given either individually or as a group (multivalent).

There are on-going debates about whether we are over-vaccinating our animals ~ work with a veterinarian whose opinion you trust and, as a responsible owner, equip yourself with information about the core vaccinations for your type of animal. If you are injecting or dosing, ensure that someone is on hand to help you to restrain the animal.

Domestic dogs and cats

Kittens and puppies need various inoculations in the first few months of their lives, most important of which is against rabies. Vaccinate your dog or cat against rabies when the animal is three months old, with the first booster one to nine months after the first vaccination and follow-up boosters at least every three years. You need a valid rabies vaccination certificate when moving dogs and cats from one province to another or when placing the animal in kennels or catteries. Apart from regular inoculations, the most important thing you can do for your pets in summer is to keep them

Continued on page 15

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ANIMAL HEALTH

From page 13

free of parasites, namely fleas and ticks. While fleas are a nuisance to the pets and will migrate to humans, furniture, beds and carpets if not controlled, ticks can infect animals with biliary which is fatal if not treated timeously (and expensively). They can also give humans tick bite fever.

☐ Horses, mules & donkeys

African Horse Sickness: AHS is the single biggest killer of equines in Gauteng in summer, as owners neglect to administer the two injections necessary for protection, or

horses will have built up insufficient immunity in January. However it is still worth doing up to the end of December, if you have not done it before.

The two injections are effective against different strains of the disease so both must be administered, otherwise the animal will not build up the full spectrum of immunity to all strains. Similarly, it is important that injected horses should not be worked hard, especially during the second week of each three week period following the injections as this



Drawing up a syringe of vaccine from an ampoule.

they handle, store and administer the injections incorrectly.

The programme comprises two injections given subcutaneously (under the skin) three weeks apart. October to November is considered the best time to administer the vaccines, whose efficacy is short-lived, because one wants to ensure maximum immunity late in the summer.

Administering them earlier will mean the horses are prone to the disease from about April, while administering the injections later means the

is the time that immunity is maximised. And, the three week gap should also be strictly adhered to otherwise immunity is, likewise, compromised.

The vaccine itself is a freeze-dried

culture which is mixed with an ampoule of distilled water before administering and it is important that the vaccine remain refrigerated during storage and transportation, and that the injection be given immediately the vaccine and water are mixed.

Equine influenza: It remains a sensible part of any stable management programme (and a necessary aspect of the management of any competitive horse) to inject horses against horse 'flu twice yearly. The programme comprises a single injection administered intramuscularly.

Anti-tetanus: Inoculation against tetanus or lockjaw is an inexpensive precaution against infection from cuts and wounds, especially penetrative (puncture) wounds.

Deworming: While a

Continued on page 16

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ANIMAL HEALTH

From page 15

deworming programme for horses is not confined to summer, the fact is that internal parasites thrive in warm, moist conditions so particular attention should be paid to regular administration of a dewormer.

A good tip is to rotate two or three different makes of dewormer through one's stable, selecting those to be used on the basis of different

active ingredients (see the package insert supplied with the dewormer) to ensure that the parasites do not build up an immunity to any one active ingredient.

The same principle of swapping brands with each deworming applies to



A syringe-type doser for oral compounds

dewormers used for any species of livestock.

❑ Cattle

While a separate programme should be used for cattle and calves (ie, those that have not been vaccinated before), cattle should have three-day stiffness and combined botulism/black quarter injections in late winter to early spring, and vibriosis injections for weeks before the breeding season, and Escherichia coli injections two to four weeks before calving. Calves should be vaccinated against blackquarter, botulism,

tetanus and anthrax between three and four months of age and then given a second vaccine for blackquarter, botulism and tetanus four weeks later.

Calves should be vaccinated against brucellosis at four to eight months of age. Pregnant animals should never be vaccinated.

Cattle should get a booster vaccination yearly against anthrax, blackquarter and botulism.

Calves should be vaccinated against tick-borne diseases at three to nine months of age. Speak to your veterinarian or animal health technician about the need for other vaccines in your area.

It is very important that cattle are given the correct number of vaccinations. If they are not, they will not be properly protected against the diseases. Vaccinated cows will also pass on some protection

Continued on page 17

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From page 16

to the calves.

❑ Sheep

Pulpy Kidney (Enterotoxaemia): Annual inoculation is recommended. However, unfortunately for the small-holder, the vaccine is supplied in 100-dose measures making inoculation of a small flock an expensive affair. Many vets will, however, provide syringes containing just enough doses for one's flock. **Blue Tongue:** Prevention of blue tongue involves good management and vaccination. Stable animals in the late afternoon where possible,

and do not let them graze in the areas where midges are present.

Tetanus and Anthrax: Both tetanus and anthrax can also be vaccinated against in sheep. Anthrax is a notifiable disease.

If you have a large flock of sheep or you are running a serious breeding operation, get advice from your veterinarian on vaccinating against mastitis, orf (which is also called vuilbek), redgut and botulism.

Deworming: Wise shepherds will tell you "You deworm a sheep when it's wormy." The surest way to know is to have your vet do a worm check on a faecal sample. You can also do a visual check yourself on a sample of faeces. If it has white specks emerging from the droppings the sheep is infested with worms internally. Also, if the sheep has a snotty nose, especially in the

mornings, you can assume it has nasal worm, which will mean it also has intestinal parasites.

Lambs with worm infestations sometimes develop large soft swellings under their jaws known as bottlejaw. This is also a sign of worms.

During the summer months a regular deworming programme should be applied to one's flock, on the basis that prevention is better than cure.

Many dewormers are available and, as with horse dewormers, good advice is to rotate the application of two or three different makes, ensuring a good mixture of the active ingredient among those chosen. This prevents the parasite population on your plot from developing immunity to any one active ingredient.

Although some are available by injection, most dewormers

are administered orally. This need be neither expensive nor difficult. Although you can buy a purpose designed dosing gun, you can use a large plastic veterinary syringe fitted with a 15cm length of flexible plastic or rubber tube in the place of a needle, particularly for a small flock.

❑ Goats

Inoculate against Pulpy kidney (Enterotoxaemia), Pasteurella, Brucellosis and Enzootic abortion (Chlamydiosis).

Continued on page 19

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ON THE PLOT

A holistic approach to animal health

Looking at the whole smallholding, instead of just the animals, gives the opportunity to observe the interactions between soil, plants, animals and weather; and to recognise the changes that occur when any of one of those components

changes.

Diseases are more than just infections, but include anything that adversely affects the health of an animal. The first step is walking the plot. See it as a whole entity. What do the grasses and

Continued on page 21

ANIMAL HEALTH

From page 17

Pigs

Sows should be vaccinated for Escherichia coli (colibacillosis) before parturition as the disease attacks young piglets, while non-gestating sows should be vaccinated against leptospirosis, swine erysipelas and parvovirus.

Boars should be vaccinated against the same diseases twice annually.

Poultry

Of all poultry species chickens are the most susceptible to Newcastle Disease and vaccination is vital in large flocks of layers, broilers and breeders. Newcastle Disease is caused by a virus and there is no treatment for chickens once they have the disease.

Vaccination is therefore advisable even for smallholder's flocks. The disease is highly contagious and notifiable. Vaccination timing

and frequency depends on the nature of the flock (ie, broilers or layers).

Probably the most common ailment in smallholder flocks is coccidiosis, for which a simple sulphonamide drug is administered, usually through the birds' drinking water.

Other diseases against which chickens should be vaccinated, again depending on the nature of the flock, include Marek's Disease, gumboro, infectious bronchitis, infectious laryngotracheitis, egg drop syndrome, fowl pox and coryza.



Day-old chicks receive vaccinations in the eye



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ON THE PLOT

From page 19

other pasture plants look like? Are they desirable plants? Are they strong looking or yellowed and weak? Are there bare spots in pastures or is there good ground cover? Are some pastures in better shape than others, or are they all uniform? Are they overgrazed or undergrazed?

What colour is the soil? Scoop up a handful and smell it. Does it have a good earthy smell?

Are the livestock contented and performing to your satisfaction? The smallholder needs to understand what is happening on the plot. Walk amongst the animals regularly, to observe their alertness, their coat condition and their body condition. By walking the plot and through the livestock, the smallholder learns what is normal and healthy. This gives an important tool in determining what changes need to be made in the whole smallholding to ensure continued good health and wellness.

Health and wellness occur through good nutrition and low stress. In winter we need to pay extra attention to ensure that our animals are receiving enough good food, through controlled grazing and supplementation. Good,

balanced nutrition is also important in building up the immune system of the animal. The immune system's function is to ward off disease, so the stronger and healthier they are, the less likely they are to contract diseases.

The ability of the immune system to fight and kill disease-causing agents is impaired by stress. Stress is the effect of change on an animal. It increases the susceptibility to disease and decreases the vitality or life force of the animal. If animals aren't fed well, are too crowded, have dirty places to sleep, are too pulled down from calving or the weather is too stressful, then they won't be profitable. How they are handled, weaning, parasite management and how new animals are introduced are also important.

Parasite stress can be alleviated through integrated parasite management (IPM) involving the animal, soils, pasture and weather. Guard against using antibiotics as your response to all animal health problems. Rather regard therapeutic antimicrobial products as complementing good management, vaccination and plot hygiene.

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The spring-loaded shaft is then "cocked" and held in position

Continued on page 23

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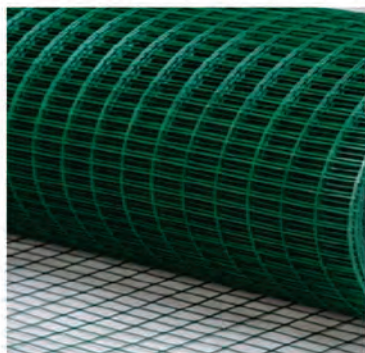
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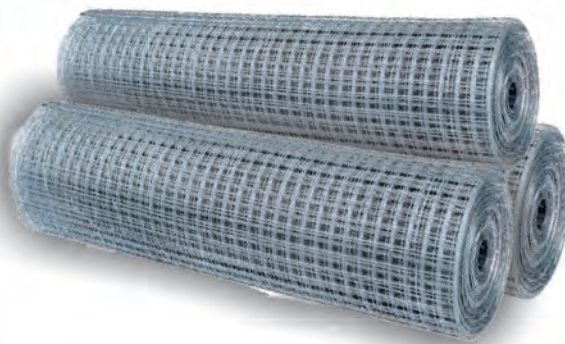
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NUTRITION

Basics of animal feed

The major expense of keeping livestock is feed costs, so it helps to know what each particular species needs in terms of nutrition, roughage etc, and how to tell a good feed from a bad one.

Animal feed can be divided into two main groups:

□ Roughage, which includes hay, straw, pastures and other plant materials with high fibre content. This is food containing more than 18% percent fibre when dry and which takes longer to digest.

□ Concentrated feed, sometimes called hard feed, in the form of ground up and often compressed material such as grains, oil cake meal, and carcass meal. Food that is rich in nutrients and highly digestible, it contains less than 10% fibre when dry.

All commercially-available concentrated feed must be

registered under the Fertilizer, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies & Stock Remedies Act, and labelled as such, with the date of manufacture and a breakdown of its nutrient composition on the label (but with no guarantee as to the actual quality of the components).

Feed ingredients are described according to their nutrient content. This refers to the component of the feed that gives nourishment to the animal. The nutrient analysis of a feed makes it possible to compare the value of different feed ingredients so that it can be best combined to fulfil the nutrient needs of a specific animal. In this way one is able to provide a balanced ration to the animal. Different types and classes of animals have different nutritional requirements. For

Continued on page 26

SECURITY

From page 21

above the cartridge by a washer which is inserted into a groove in the shaft.

When an intruder walks through the protected space, he pulls the washer from the groove, which causes the charge to detonate, nice and close to him, giving him a helluva "skrik" (and waking the residents of the house, as well as the neighbours...)

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Max 64 m/s



BG 86
Handheld Blower
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Max 810 m³/h
Max 85 m/s

E&oe.

ANIMAL FEED

From page 23

example, growing and producing animals need more nutrients than full-grown non-producing animals.

Functions of nutrient components:

❑ Crude Protein: Building blocks for all protein-containing material in the body – primarily muscle and connective tissue, milk, fibre, blood, certain enzymes and hormones.

❑ Carbo-hydrate/Starch: Supplies the day to day energy for “running” the body's whole metabolism

❑ Fats & Oils: Supplies extra energy during times in which the carbohydrates are too few; stores surplus energy as body fat; necessary for the function of certain vitamins



and enzymes.

❑ Crude Fibre: Contains some carbohydrates and starches that can be utilized by some animals. The roughage aspect of this fraction helps to keep the gut working properly.

❑ Minerals:

~ Calcium (Ca): 99% of the Ca in the body is found in the bone and teeth. Essential for the normal functioning of the heart and skeletal muscles. Essential in the activity of the enzyme system. Also involved in the coagulation of blood.
~ Phosphorus (P): 80- 85% of the P in the body is found in the bone and teeth. Essential for the energy

metabolism of the body. Essential for balancing the acidity of the body fluids.
~ Potassium (K): Important in carbohydrate metabolism as well as nerve and muscle function. Also essential for the general balancing of fluids in the body. Urine contains high levels of K.

~ Sodium (Na): Plays a role in transmission of nerve impulses and in the absorption of sugar and protein from the digestive tract.

Continued on page 27

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ANIMAL FEED

From page 26

Essential in the balance of the body fluid and maintenance of muscle tone.

~ Chlorine (Cl): Chemical component of digestive juices, it aids digestion. Essential in the balance of the body fluid and maintenance of muscle tone.

~ Magnesium (Mn): Activator for many different enzymes. Plays a role in balancing body fluids.

~ Sulphur (S): Essential for the formation of S-containing proteins. Wool contains high levels of S. Essential for hormone and enzyme functions.

~ Iron (Fe): Essential part of the haemoglobin molecule that carries the oxygen in the blood. Is either part of or activates a number of enzyme systems.

□ Vitamins: In general they are either a part of or help to activate the enzyme and co-enzyme systems of the body. Vitamins are essential for all aspects of energy transmission in the body.

□ Water: The body consists of between 75 and 85% water. Essential component of all systems in the body. It forms the ultimate mediator between the body and its environment.

There are different systems of feeding livestock – extensive, semi-intensive and intensive systems.

An extensive feeding system means that the animals are free grazing or browsing in a camp or pasture and no additional feedstuffs are provided in addition to the natural vegetation of the veld.

The only component supplied by management is good quality drinking water. Where the grass is found to be nutritionally lacking supplementation will be given in the form of protein and micro-supplement licks. Much game is farmed in this manner.

Most smallholders will follow the semi-intensive system, where the animal's nutritional needs are met by 50/50 % ratio between free grazing and feeding supplied. The animal will graze in a pasture or in a camp of an irrigated crop and this will supply the roughage. Then concentrates in the form of hard feeds will be given.

An intensive feeding system is where all the food is provided to the animal in the area where it is contained. This is also called a feedlot.

Management must provide both the roughage and concentrate parts of the balanced diet of the animals

and this requires careful management skills as animals can easily be underfed, overfed or poisoned. Note that the fact that an animal feed is registered in terms of the act provides no guarantee as to the quality of the ingredients used in its manufacture, only that its formulation complies with laid down minimum requirements. Thus, generally, the more expensive the feed, the better the quality of its

Continued on page 28

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BEEKEEPING

How a beekeeper prepares for spring

The shortest day is long behind us and with the days lengthening through July and into August the bees, sensitive to this change, in increasing numbers start out from their hives a little earlier in the mornings and end for the day

Our regular column on beekeeping, by veteran beekeeper Peter Clark

a little later each afternoon. For the bees need pollen to start brood rearing and Mother Nature provides the first new season's pollen

yielding plants, the Acacia Baileyanas, the Rhus Lancias, the poppies in the flower beds, and many more. In the brood chambers bees

are moving honey from the brood chamber up into the super chamber to make space for expanding the brood rearing to meet the oncoming spring honey and pollen flow.

Continued on page 29

ANIMAL FEED

From page 27

ingredients. By the same token, if you buy an unregistered feed you have no guarantee as to either its composition or quality. But how the feed is transported and stored before you

buy it can also have an effect on its quality. Check that your feed store practices proper stock rotation in the warehouse, so that you are not buying old or mouldy feed. You can identify mouldy feed by its smell or you will see

that it is caked together or whiter in appearance. Buy only enough feed that you can properly store on your plot. Store the feed where it is kept dry and free from vermin. Store high cost feeds and supplements that can easily be loaded in an area that can be safely locked. Clean used 210 litre drums with loose lids make good containers or you can buy custom-manufactured bins.

If you serve your feed moistened (a good trick to help prevent coughing in horses), do not pre-prepare it as damp feed quickly spoils and also attracts flies. Rather moisten it just before you give it to your animals. Check that the feed does not contain urea, as that becomes toxic when moistened, so must be fed dry.

Regular checking of the energy levels and condition of your animal and the state of its droppings will tell you if your feed regimen is appropriate.

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From page 28

For the beekeeper, too, it's a time of housework on his hives to set the bees on their way for the new season's anticipated two honey crops, the first in November and the second in March next year. A beekeeper with apiaries away from home will be busy with his record books, visiting hives on farms last visited in April.

With a good cosmos season this year he can hope to have achieved an average of 14kg of honey per hive. By contrast, last year's blue gum flow was poor, averaging only seven kilograms per hive, due to the mild winter and the irregular flowering of the gums.

For 15 hives in the apiary the beekeeper will load his vehicle with 30 replacement frames of full sheets of foundation wax, two for each hive, in three renovated brood chambers, complete

'The reason for spring cleaning is to provide space for the new developing brood at the outset of the new season'

with floors and lids, as well as all the paraphernalia of beekeeping such as a smoker, smoker fuel, hive tool, bee brush, a lightweight fold-up work table and, of course, full bee suits for himself and his assistants.

The reason for spring cleaning is to provide space for the new developing brood at the outset of the new season.

At the start of winter around the end of April, as the temperatures fall below 14°C, the bees slow down brood rearing and as the empty cells in the brood chamber are not reused, the bees pack honey in these cells. This brood area becomes smaller and smaller and the honey is packed down to create insulation for the minor brood development during the winter months. Honey was also removed

from the super and drawn down into the brood chamber. Therefore it is imperative to leave sufficient honey for the swarm over the winter. With the rapid advancement of the spring this honey is a problem for the new season's brood rearing and because the bees are confined in a brood box and not able to keep pace with the advancing season, there is no space for the expansion of the brood. This is the first condition that sets up a swarming impulse and the bees split and half the

swarm hives off.

Previously, had this swarm moved into a natural open space such as a hollow tree, or inside a roof, a pool pump cover, electrical meter box or empty 210 litre drum there would be ample space to expand their new brood rearing area next to the previous season's area as they always do in natural conditions.

But now the beekeeper needs to clean out the brood chambers. He sorts through the frames and removes the two worst ones. He then moves the remaining frames to the outer areas of the

Continued on page 31

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BEEKEEPING

From page 29

brood chamber, but retains the small brood area intact in the center of the brood chamber. He then places two frames of full sheet foundation, one on each side of the brood area but not to divide the brood nest.

The grading of the worst frames is as follows, in the order of worst frames first:

☐ Drone brood combs where drone brood cells occupy more than 20% of the frame,

☐ Old black combs where worker cells are getting smaller, due to their continual use during the previous seasons.

☐ Badly or partly cross-built combs and poorly developed combs.

☐ Honey frames where one would consider too much honey for the bees to move to create more laying space for the developing queen.

The term "Spring management" is also used where brood rearing space is to be provided during the summer months.

This applies particularly to beekeepers who move their hives to provide pollination services to farmers such as, for example, bees that have been in among gumtrees from August to January and are then to be moved to sunflower from January to April, or to the saligna in the Lowveld from January to May.

Unless space is created in the

brood rearing area, they will swarm off. To avoid this swarming, "spring cleaning" has to be employed and usually on these occasions one would need to remove two or three capped brood frames of solid honey out of the brood nest and replace with full sheets of foundation, within the brood nest area by placing these frames of foundation between brood developing frames.

One can, however, also provide this extra space by adding an extra super immediately above the brood chamber, or below the queen excluder if one had fitted a queen excluder, especially during hot sunny summer days, to relieve the heat generated in the hive. The hive will now have two supers. This manoeuvre creates a large area in the brood nest for the rearing of many more workers and more worker bees means better performance and more honey.

☐ All three Gauteng beekeepers' associations welcome new beekeepers to their regular meetings and have active Facebook pages. The Northern Beekeepers Association (known as "Northerns") meets as a rule around Pretoria and caters for beekeepers around Pretoria. For details call Riekie on 082 972-1889. The Southern Beekeepers Association ("Southerns") covers beekeepers in the Johannesburg, West Rand and southern Gauteng. For details email Lanz on afromedia@gmail.com The Eastern Highveld Beekeepers Association ("Easterns") caters for beekeepers on the East Rand, as well as members in Mpumalanga. Call Mike on 083 430-8707



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IRRIGATION

Make your water work for you

With spring fast approaching, many smallholders' thoughts will be turning to planting, either in their gardens, or even on a small scale, crops for profit. And one of the key considerations in the decision of what to plant and how to grow it must be the question of irrigation.

If you have bought an established smallholding you



Impact sprayers ... Convenient, common, but wasteful of water.

will doubtless have inherited some form of irrigation, often comprising buried plastic pipe of varying pressure ratings and varying diameters and, unless you can afford to simply scrap the whole lot and start afresh, you will want to make do with what you have in place. But the starting point in any irrigation plan must be to know how much water you

have available. In other words, how strong and reliable is your borehole or, if you have riparian pumping rights, how reliable is the stream or river from which you can pump? And, an important consideration today in Gauteng: How polluted is the water? If the content of your borehole is insufficient for

your daily irrigation needs it will be worthwhile investigating some form of mass storage, into which your borehole can pump round the clock. This could be in the form of a circular corrugated iron reservoir, or the brick and mortar equivalent, or even nothing more elaborate and expensive than a kid's plastic-lined portapool.

Nowadays all South Africans are aware that this is a water-

Continued on page 33

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IRRIGATION

From page 32
scarce country and we should all be making attempts at saving water wherever possible. Thus, one's choice of irrigation system should, where possible, be as frugal in water-consumption as possible.

Some systems use more water to achieve the same result than others. Flood and drain systems, and overhead sprinkler or spray systems use more water than microjet sprays and driplines.

Similarly, some soils are more efficient at water retention

than others. Very sandy soil will absorb water more quickly than heavier, clayey soils. But the water thus absorbed in sandy soil will also drain away, through the soil, faster than that absorbed by a heavier soil.

Crops and prevailing weather conditions should also have a bearing on one's irrigation needs. Vegetables, particularly fleshy ones (think of the contents of a tomato), require more water than flowers.

Some crops (eg tomatoes) don't enjoy having their leaves wet and will quickly grow

mould, fungus and other leaf diseases if irrigated thus.

Hot, dry weather and, equally, hot, humid weather can also encourage diseases on crops whose leaves are wet from irrigation.

Your decision on how to get the

water out of the ground, or your storage receptacle, and on to your plants will also be affected by the pump you use, the slope of your land and the piping through which it moves.

These three factors will ultimately determine how much water you have



LDPE water pipe of various diameters

available at the point of delivery, and at what pressure.

Continued on page 35



Weak borehole? Store your water maplotter-style in a kids' portapool.

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IRRIGATION

From page 33

If you are fortunate enough to have your borehole or storage higher than where you want to water, all the power delivered by your pump is available for moving water at the design pressure of the pump. If, however, your pump and water storage are below where you want to water, some of that power will be consumed merely pushing the water uphill, resulting in lower pressure and even lower volume, at the delivery point.

The volume of water delivered will also be affected by the piping through which it travels, in two ways.

On the one hand, on an established plot, chances are that the existing irrigation network will be a mixture of, usually, 40mm dia and 32mm dia (and sometimes 25mm dia) plastic pipe. Hopefully these lengths are rationally connected from largest to smallest diameter in the system (in many cases they won't be), but in any case what is available at the point of delivery will be dictated by the diameter of the smallest pipe in the system.

And it's not only the pipework itself, but also the number of connectors in the pipe that affect the volume, particularly if the system comprises low-pressure

re (Class 3) pipe, where the connectors fit inside the pipe, rather than forming a seal on the outside.

That's because the internal diameters of the low-pressure connectors are smaller than the pipe they are designed to connect, effectively forming a choke-point and thus reducing the volume delivered.

By the same token, if your pipe has been repeatedly punctured, for example by a spade or fork, and repaired

by the insertion of a connector, it will deliver less than a clean, intact pipe will, because of all the choke points thus created along its length. And on the other hand, there's another factor which affects the volume of water in



A field of driplines. Labour-intensive to lay out, but efficient in their water-use.

a piping system, and that's friction. If you feel the inside of a length of Class3 pipe with your finger you will, notice a roughness. It's not as

Continued on page 37



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IRRIGATION

From page 35

smooth as the outside. And it's the roughness on the inside that sets up friction with the water flowing through it.

Two other considerations should feed into your planning. The first is the cost of energy. Pressure pumps use electricity, with bigger pumps consuming more than smaller ones. If energy is thus a concern you might opt for a low-pressure drip irrigation system rather than a high-pressure spray system.

And, of course, labour. With a fixed irrigation system, for example a dripline or microjet system you can get away with minimal labour input to ensure your plants

are watered. And your labour requirement can be further reduced by installing a timer system which will automate the whole process.

Conversely, rigid pipe sprinklers ~ in fact sprinklers of just about any type except self-propelled ones and pop-ups in the lawn ~ need to be moved. This will require labour, both to do the moving, and time to uncouple, and recouple, and may in fact not be feasible at all. For example, humping lengths of rigid pipe with their associated stand-up sprinkler heads around an orchard of established fruit trees might be an exercise in frustration. If you opt for a sprinkler system, ie one of those using rotating impact sprinkler heads, there is a method you can use to ensure the best possible use of the water thus delivered, as well as even delivery. And that's to plant your crops in a circular bed, the perimeter of which is

exactly the same as the outer reach of the spray delivered. Furthermore, by positioning the circular beds (and their associated sprinklers) far enough apart, you can ensure an even wetting, without dry corners and wet patches, where the sprays from two adjacent sprinklers overlap. It goes without saying that sprinkler and spray systems of all types become less effective, to the point of utter uselessness, if used in windy

conditions.

Finally, the value of any volume of water delivered to plant of any type, be it a fruit tree, a vegetable or a flower, can be greatly enhanced by enriching the soil in which it is planted with compost and other organic material, and by covering the surface around the plant with a good layer of mulch as an insulation against heat at root level, and also to prevent evaporation.

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Pruning fruit trees: The basics

Short of cutting it off at the roots the chance of you, as a beginner fruit tree pruner, cutting away too much is close to nil. Thus, in all probability your first and likely most amateurish attempts at "hacksaw man" are unlikely to cause real damage, however vigorously you go at it.

In fact, the opposite is probably true: your first few attempts will be so timid and lightweight that your lack of sufficient pruning will, in the

long run, ruin the tree.

It must be said that the same applies if you inherit a mature tree that has been poorly pruned by others, or on which pruning has been absent for a few years, and in such a case it is worthy getting in the services of a trained arborist (pruner) who can cast an experienced eye over the tree and do the necessary with the required vigour. But if the services of a professional are out of the question here are some

guidelines on how to start (and start ~ now ~ you must as August is your last chance before the tree starts to bud). Firstly, cut away all the dead wood, identified by being a slightly greyer colour than the living wood, with the little shoots being shrivelled rather than smooth. Remove any dead shrivelled fruit that remains, too.

At the same time cut away any branches that are touching one another, as well as any suckers growing out from ground level.

Now stand back from the tree and hold your hand out in front of you, palm upwards. Place your thumb on your pinkie (or if your fingers are too stiff hold your thumb and pinkie down in your palm with your other hand).

Your three middle fingers will

thus extend upwards.

Separate them into a three-fingered "zap" sign, pushing the middle finger away from you as far as possible, so that the three fingers form the edges of an inverted three sided pyramid.

Holding your fingers thus look at the tree and identify the

Continued on page 40

A Look at Pruning

GOOD

NOT GOOD



Before Pruning



Well-Pruned, Open Head



Topping produces dumps of uncontrolled growth

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IN THE GARDEN

From page 39

three main branches rising off the trunk that most closely match the positions of your three fingers.

Using a chainsaw, or a pruning saw (not an axe) cut away any additional main branch, starting with a shallow cut from underneath through the bark and into solid wood to prevent the skin of the tree from ripping away when the felled branch separates from the tree.

Neaten up the cut, removing any splinters, to leave a smooth flat wound.

Your tree should thus ideally comprise a trunk and three main branches extending

outwards at an angle of about 45-60° and roughly equidistant from one another around the trunk.

Next, climb a ladder into the heart of the tree and cut away any of last season's shoots (new wood) that are growing vertically upwards. You don't want your tree becoming too tall. It makes picking the fruit difficult.

Next, cut away at least half of any growth extending horizontally, new or otherwise. You don't want your tree's branches to become too extended over time (the biggest danger in not pruning harshly enough year after year) as this leads to the

branch becoming too heavy for its own strength and, under the weight of leaves and summer fruit, it will break ~ an irredeemable disaster.

Finally, cut away at least two-thirds of any new growth, cutting just above an outward facing bud, on a slant at such an angle that it points in the same direction as the bud. Work steadily from limb to limb, periodically checking to see that you're being consistent in the amount of cutting you're doing.

The result will be a decidedly

odd-looking spiky tree which, rather than being a disaster, is what you're aiming for.

The jury is out on whether tree sealer applied to the wounds thus caused is a good thing or a bad thing, but one thing is for sure: if you're going to seal the wounds don't use anything other than properly-formulated tree sealer.

Clear away all the prunings and allow them to dry for use as kindling in your fireplace, or run them through a

Continued on page 41

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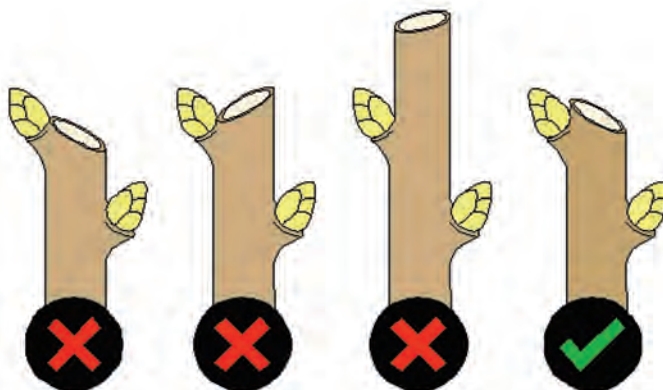
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Do your bit for nature: start a recycling depot

If you're keen to do your bit for the planet by recycling waste, and want to earn a bit of extra cash on your plot in the process, the

Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) suggests that you consider setting up your own drop-off or buy-back

centre. In this way you can not only help keep the environment clean, but you can also make some income from it.

What are the advantages of recycling waste?

□ It saves valuable landfill space, as now there will be

Continued on page 43

IN THE GARDEN

From page 40

chipper for use as mulch.

Then spray the tree with lime sulphur solution, being sure to coat the entire surface of the tree, topside and underside, but being careful not to spray yourself (because your clothing will stink forever more), or any nearby vegetables, apiaries, aviaries or chicken runs. Thus, it's best to spray on an absolutely windless day, after any dew has dried off.

After pruning, dose the tree with fertilizer and "switch on" the tree's summer growth by starting to give it deep, soaking waterings.

Remember also, that just because you sprayed with lime sulphur (the pong of which may linger for some weeks) doesn't mean that the tree will not be attacked by pests and disease during the summer. Look for leaf curl, black spot, aphids and other diseases and treat as necessary.

□ This advice applies for deciduous fruit trees such as peach and nectarines. Vines, because they are espaliered or trellised are pruned as vigorously, but using a slightly different technique. Apricot and plum trees, as well as apple and pears, are also

pruned, but less vigorously, as are citrus trees, at a different time of year.

Standard roses should be

pruned with great vigour as for peaches and plums, and also sprayed with lime sulphur.

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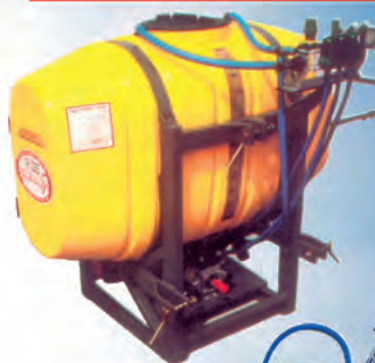
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OPEN FOR BUSINESS

From page 41

less waste to be disposed of;

❑ It saves energy ~ making new products from recycled materials requires less energy than making them from new raw materials;

❑ It saves natural resources ~ recycling reduces the demand for foreign and domestic raw materials and natural resources, eg, fuel, trees and metals;

❑ Recycling existing materials can reduce manufacturing pollutants;

❑ It reduces littering, thus reducing the negative environmental impact of waste;

❑ Transporting waste uses resources and causes pollution;

❑ Incorrect handling of hazardous waste can result in harm to humans, animals and the environment; and;

❑ It provides jobs.

A good place to start is to contact recycling companies



Cardboard, newsprint and office paper are all easily recycled.

to find out what they will take, what sort of quantities they accept, how must the waste be presented, for example must it be washed, how must it be sorted, where can waste be delivered, do they collect or provide drums, bags or containers and how much do they pay.

You might need to check with

your local metro to establish which municipal by-laws or other laws apply whether you need to register as a collector, transporter or buy-back centre operator.

If you need a permit, find out where you must apply and whether any other legal documents are required.

Establish whether they offer

any assistance in getting you started.

Identify your competition: who are they, where do they operate and what do they collect.

If you are going to set up a buy-back centre on your own plot, you'll need to identify a site at least the size of a double garage. You will also need to consider how accessible it is to the public and to collectors.

Estimate your space requirements based on volumes and type of recyclables to be stored, the period it will be stored, areas for offloading, sorting and storage and the containers that you will need (type, size and quantity). You also need an office area, ablution facilities, as well as turning space and headroom for vehicles. Your drainage system might need to be adapted to handle effluent from your site.

Continued on page 44

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OPEN FOR BUSINESS

From page 43

Consider what you will collect ~ cans, glass, paper, plastics, used oil, electrical and electronic waste, scrap metal or tyres.

You will need containers in which to store the waste materials, tables for sorting, signage and some form of security.

Obviously you will have to keep your site and containers neat and tidy at all times to prevent bees, flies, rats, odours, unsightliness and accidents. Someone must sweep, wash and disinfect the containers and the site regularly. On a daily basis you must pick up litter inside and



To achieve the best return on buy-back glass should be sorted by colour, and cans into steel and aluminium.

outside of the site's fence. You will also need to think about possible health and safety risks and must check for possible fire and environmental risks.

Establish who is going to keep the site clean, who will monitor the containers and phone for collection or deliver the containers to depots and who will keep a record of payments.

Then you need to explore possible sources of recyclable materials. In smallholder areas where recycling has not been

made compulsory by the municipality, put up signs in your area for your community to bring their waste to you.

Organise local clean up days so that your neighbours help you to collect the litter on your streets and in the veld.

Approach shops in local shopping centres and offer to take away their recyclable waste.

Local school children can be asked to take materials to school, where you can collect them.

Find high consumption areas such as taverns, restaurants, hotels or even stadiums, sports fields, outdoor events, parks and picnic spots.

Negotiate a price with recycling companies or their nominated agents and decide on method and frequency of payment. Factors influencing prices include market demand, sufficient volumes, sorting and preparation of recyclables.

As in any business set up your record keeping. You need to monitor daily operating records: weights, volumes and types of recyclables; what was collected, received and sold, along with the prices paid to collectors and prices paid by agents.

In terms of money management, prepare a budget, control payments and receipts and prepare monthly income and expenditure reports including rent, telephone, water, electricity, wages, repairs, maintenance, etc. You will also have to think about security of cash on site. For more information see www.iwmsa.co.za.

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DIARY



ATTENTION CRAFT MARKETS, CLUBS ETC: If you would like details of your events included in the Diary, please fax or email your information to the Editor. For non-commercial enterprises this service is FREE.

NOTE: FARMERS' & CRAFT MARKETS. For a listing of REGULARLY HELD markets and fairs please see the separate section on page 47. Only markets that are held infrequently are now listed in this calendar section.

Every Sunday

Cattle drive with City Slickers breakfast, Diamond X Cowboy Ranch, near Rayton. Call Rudan on 082 410-3180 horses@diamondx ranch.co.za, www.diamondx.co.za., R500 per person.

Mnandi Methodist Church, 09:00, Mnandi Centre, cnr Tulip and Short Streets, Jen 012 651-5509. Gail 072 477-0708. A small community who worship together. We have a Youth and Children's church.

Premier Mine Presbyterian Church, Lower Oak Ave, Cullinan. Garden of Remembrance (Columbarium), 079 060-9990 or 012 734-1640, Worship and Sunday school. Holy Communion for all on the 1st Sunday of every month.

Every Monday

Alcoholics Anonymous. 'Courage to Change' Group meeting, 19:30, Benoni Agricultural Holdings, Marcus 082 042-7730. Warren 082 335-0049. Glen 072 239-3024. If you want to drink – that's your problem! If you want to stop – that's our problem! No fees; no dues; just concerned fellowship.

2018

August

4: Beekeeping for beginners course (four Saturdays, one per month for four months). It will cover both practical and theory needed to start as a hobbyist beekeeper. 186 Uys Road, Rynfield Agricultural Holdings, right next to Highveld Honey Farms. Convener: Mike Alter, 083 430-8707.

4: Bokkie Park Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel

rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

4: Garden World's Spring Festival event: Container Gardening, 09h30 for 10h00. Johan 'Panda' du Preez from Starke Ayres plants up an edible box full of scrumptious veggies. R250 per person & includes the workshop, container, plants, refreshments as well as fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

5: Ngwenya Country Market, Shady Lane, off the R114, Muldersdrift. 09h00-16h00. Food, crafts, glass blowing, cocktails, live music & kids' entertainment.

5: Country Charity Market in aid of the Manger Care Centre, 0900 – 1500, Plot 31, Uitzicht, Van der Hoff Road, Pretoria West. Fresh produce, food, arts & crafts and live entertainment. To book stalls etc call 012 376-0042 (The market will run every Sunday thereafter).

9: National Womens Day

9: Garden World's Spring Festival event: Women's Day Makeover, 10h30 for 11h00. Hannon Bothma, the Glam Guru, performs a live makeover on stage. No persons under 18 will be allowed. R200 pp & includes the demonstration, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

9-11: Kragdag Expo, Diamantvallei Landgoed, Donkerhoek (off the R515 Cullinan-Bapsfontein). Alternative energy and self-sufficiency expo, with entertainment and food available. Adults R80 (free if you register beforehand online), children under 18 free. www.kragdag.co.za

11: New Moon

11: Garden World Spring Festival event: Mother & Child Fun Day with a Flower Arranging Course, 09h30 for 10h00. Join Ina Roodt, Interflora & Makhro Home & Garden for a fun-filled morning where you can create your own beautiful flower arrangement, the perfect workshop for Mother & Child!

R140 per child & includes the workshop, refreshments as well as fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

18: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekke van den Berg 082 972-1889

18: Garden World Spring Festival event: Succulent Container Gardening, 09h30 for 10h00. Join Efeko & John Sauer from Ngena Succulents as he will show you how to plant a succulent container garden, and also discuss water scarcity in South Africa

due to a growing population and rapid urbanization.

R100 pp & includes the talk and demonstration, a goodie bag, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways including Succulents in container. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

19-21: Agribusiness Transformation Conference organised by the African Farmers Association of SA (Afasa). Destiny Hotel & Conference Centre, 3rd Rd, Bredell AH, Kempton Park.

25: Garden World Spring Festival event: High Tea with Sandy Roberts of the Margaret Roberts Herbal Centre, 10h30 for 11h00. Join MayFord Seeds & Garden World for a high tea morning with Sandy Roberts on anti-ageing herbs used to rejuvenate, revitalise & restore. A beautiful morning on healthy herbs & how to make teas from your garden at no cost. R140 pp & includes the talk, high tea, a goodie bag & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

26: Full Moon

27-29: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

30: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

31: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

September

1: Bokkie Park Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

1: Garden World Spring Festival event: In Tune with Nature, 13h00 for 13h30. Anna Cilliers, Richard Cock and MayFord Seeds offer a delightful spring afternoon laced with good gardening advice from Anna Cilliers, paired with heavenly music & song brought to you by SA's most well-known conductor, Richard Cock. R100 pp & includes the event, a goodie bag, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

1: Garden World Spring Festival event: Classic Car Show, 09h00 – 16h00. The Classic Car Show is a vehicle event worth noting. It's a fun experience that features vintage cars, classic cars, muscle cars and much more. It's the motor-heads go-to. Entrance is FREE. Contact Garden World on 011 957 2545

8-9: African Bird Fair, Walter Sisulu National Botanical Garden, Roodepoort. Organised by BirdLife Africa

15: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekke van den Berg 082 972-1889

17-19: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

20: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

21: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

October

6: Christmas in October Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

20: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekke van den Berg 082 972-1889

22-24: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

25: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

26: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

27: Halloween Market, Bokkie Park, Southvale Road, Parkdene Boksburg. Call Janine or Joan 072 713-3332

November

3: Bokkie Park Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

17: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekke van den Berg 082 972-1889

24: Christmas Night Market, Bokkie Park, Southvale Road, Parkdene Boksburg. Call Janine or Joan 072 713-3332

26-28: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

29: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

30: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

December

1: Bokkie Park Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

15: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekke van den Berg 082 972-1889



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Regular Gauteng Farmers' Food Markets

NOTE: This is a listing ONLY of markets held to a regular weekly or monthly schedule. Markets held less frequently are listed in the DIARY section of the magazine and we urge readers to check each month for dates and events of interest. We would like this list of food markets to be as comprehensive as possible. If you know of farmers' food markets that are not listed here, please email us the contact details of the organisers, and details of the market. Only FOOD markets are included. Similarly, if you know of markets in this list that have CLOSED please inform us so that we can delete incorrect or outdated information. We invite you to tell us of your experiences when visiting these markets so that we can better inform our readers. Were they as advertised? Was the produce on sale plentiful, well-priced, well-presented and fresh? Email your comments to editor@gautengsmallholder.com

DAY	WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	CONTACT	WHAT TO EXPECT
Thursday					
Every Thursday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 - 15:00	40 Culross Road, Bryanston (off Main Road)	Konrad or Glenda 011 706 3671 glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce.
Friday					
Last Friday	Walkerville Farmers Market	18:00 - 22:00	112 R82 Main Road, Walkerville	079 076 7680	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area.
Last Friday	The Market In The Garden	09:00 - 15:00	Garden Shop, Braam Fischer Drive, Bryanston (next to Sandton Clinic)	Robyn 083 311 4768	Fresh produce, home industry & craft, food etc. Enquire about stall prices
Saturday					
Every Saturday	The Red Windmill Village Market	09:00 - 15:00	104 Main Road, Walkerville	082 627 3134 or 072 637 9355 Stalls: 082 641 8982	Fresh produce, food stalls, coffee shop, plants, arts & crafts, book etc.
Every Saturday	Waterfall Estate Farmers Market	09:00 - 15:00	Waterfall Estate, Waterfall Cor Midrand	Robyn 083 311 4768	Fresh produce, pickles, preserves and home industry & craft, food etc. Enquire about stall prices.
Every Saturday	Pretoria Boeremark	05:30 - 09:30	Moreleta Street entrance, Krige Street ext, Silverton	012 804 8031 or 079 987 1025	Fresh produce & traditional bazaar treats like jaffles, kaings with pap & boerevors rolls.
Every Saturday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 - 15:00	40 Culross Road, Bryanston (off Main Road)	Konrad or Glenda 011 706 3671 glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce.
Every Saturday	The Hazel Food Market	08:00 - 14:00	Greenlyn Village Centre, Cor Thomas Edison & Mackenzie St, Menlo Park, Pretoria	Rietha 083 554 5636 www.hazelfoodmarket.co.za	Fresh produce straight from the producer. Coffee, eats on sale
Every Saturday	Walkerville Farmers Market	09:00 - 15:00	112 R82 Main Road, Walkerville	079 076 7680 info@wfmarket.co.za	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area.
Every Saturday	Walkerville Country Market	09:00 - 15:00	Walkerville showgrounds on the R82	Noorunisha 074 141 8485	Fresh produce, crafter's market, food court, craft beer, kids play area and pet friendly.
Every Saturday	Bosheuvel Fresh Produce	10:00 - 19:00	54 Glory Road, Muldersdrift	Mitch 082 553 2846	Outdoor country experience working farm cattle, sheep pigs. Free range meat, cheese, eggs and poultry. Craft beer
Every Saturday	The Fresh Co-op Weekly Farmers Market	07:00 - 10:30	204 Allan Road, Glen Austin Halfway House, Gauteng	info.freshproducecoop@gmail.com 082 369 7755	Fresh produce, pickles, preserves, home industry, arts and crafts, food etc.
Every Saturday	Jozi Real Food Market	08:30 - 13:30	Pirates Sports Club, 25 Braeside Road, Greenside	Ingrid 083 532 2992 jozirealfoodmarket@gmail.com	Outdoor pet & child friendly, organic vegetables, food, arts & crafts
Every Saturday	Waenhuiskrans Plaas / Farmers Market	08:00 - 14:00	Cor of Veda & Enkeldoorn Ave opposite Montana Traders and next to Kollonade Centre	Phil Jansen - 083 5050 329 or office 012 567 6076 to book a stall	Stalls: Food, arts and crafts Fresh produce, eggs, chicken, meat, fruit and veg, Kiosk, <u>Maders Pies, coffee</u>
1st Saturday	Bonaero Market	08:00 - 14:00	Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bonaero Park, 26 Geldenhuys Rd	Magda (Secretary and Organiser) 083 8457660	Crafts, food stalls, coffee shop, kids play area, books, white elephant, veggies, safe parking
2nd Saturday	Brakpan Boeremark	09:00 - 14:00	Cor van der Walt & Dirk van der Hoff Road, Brakpan	Marius 082 904 8852 or 011 744 2322	Over 50 stalls, food, art crafts etc.
Last Saturday	Fresh2U Farmers Market	08:00 - 14:00	Cnr Main & High Street, Modderfontein (behind 33 High St)	Jane 083 376 5567 Chantelle 082 338 7818 wardek@iafrica.com	Over 50 stalls, fresh produce, home made goods, plants, food & more.
Last Saturday	Fresh Produce Market	08:00 - 13:00	Lakeside Mall Boathouse	Alma 079 940 0201 realfood4realpeople@gmail.com	Local fresh produce direct to the public.
Last Saturday	Windpomp Market	08:00 - 14:00	Broodblik & Koffiepit on the R51 between Petit & Bapsfontein	083 445 1608 adelekoffiepit@gmail.com	Homemade crafts & food stalls, bakery & coffee shop and entertainment.
Sunday					
Every Sunday	The Red Windmill Village Market	09:00 - 15:00	104 Main Road, Walkerville	082 627 3134 or 072 637 9355 Stalls: 082 641 8982	Fresh produce, food stalls, coffee shop, plants, arts & crafts, book etc.
Every Sunday	Fourways Farmers Market	10:00 - 15:00	Cor Montecasino Boulevard & William Nicol Drive, Fourways	011 465 0827 www.ffmarket.co.za	Get your groceries... in the garden!
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Good bye, Mr Chips

My beloved and I recently celebrated our 40th summer of wedded bliss. And while it is customary, or traditional, upon reaching this auspicious milestone, for the one partner to give the other something containing a ruby, our family took a collective decision that rather than a scarlet trinket we would celebrate the event with a trip to the Cape to revisit the "scene of the crime" so to speak, for it was in Cape Town that, on a fine Saturday morning in 1978 we had been joined in the bonds of holy matrimony with the bells of St George's Cathedral announcing our union, at 11:00 in the morning, to all of Cape Town's Saturday shoppers.

In short, we would hold a helluva celebration party, inviting all our Cape friends and relatives, specifically those who are still around who had been at our wedding

While our three now-adult children set about organising accommodation, a suitable venue, catering and all the other necessities of a successful party, we set about inviting our guests. All was looking as if the stars and dates were particularly-well-aligned for us for our anniversary fell over a weekend, and thus we would be able to celebrate it exactly four decades to the day, on a Saturday, the traditional day for a wedding.

Many of the members of our original wedding party are no longer with us, and others have moved away from the Cape. Nevertheless, we rounded up those that we could, which included relatives, old work colleagues and long-standing friends and, especially, the man who had introduced us to each other while we were students, and who had been my most able best man, before going on to a highly successful career as a teacher, from which he'd recently retired as the much-loved principal of a leading Cape primary school ~ the archetypal Mr Chips, with whom he strongly identified. He remained a life-long friend, becoming also godfather to our eldest son.

Last year our friend was diagnosed with cancer, which necessitated surgery and a course of radiation, both of which he was coping well with, we all thought.

As my best man 40 years ago he had done a sterling job of steadying my nerves and ensuring my tie was straight and my shoes polished as he shepherded me up the aisle to the alter of the Cathedral, there to await the (fashionably-delayed) arrival of the object of my desire, with his steady hand delivering the wedding ring safely into the hands of the officiating priest, and thence on to the finger of my betrothed.

Crucially for this tale, he was thus introduced to St George's

Cathedral, and had continued as a regular parishioner, going to church there every Sunday, for the past 40 years.

Now you don't organise a 40th anniversary luncheon as a spur of the moment thing, and the arrangements took some months to have in place. And we all, family and guests alike, were looking forward to it greatly.

However, two weeks before the event we received sad news: Our mutual friend, my best man, the much-loved retired headmaster and our son's godfather, died in hospital of complications following a small dental operation. Clearly we had all underestimated the effect that the earlier cancer surgery and radiation had had on his body. We duly expressed our condolences to his family, commenting in passing how close we were to our anniversary, while they organised his funeral. Because his family (like us) needed to travel from Gauteng the best date they could settle on was over the weekend of our anniversary. On the Saturday, at 9:30 in the morning.

And, of course, he had been a lifelong parishioner of St George's, so it was only fitting that he be sent off in style from the cathedral.

His family, recognising our close friendship, did me the honour of inviting me to be one of his pallbearers at the funeral.

Thus it was that, 40 years to the day and only a couple of hours short of the time of our wedding all those Saturdays before (and for only the second time in my life), I stood with my friend before the alter of St George's Cathedral in Cape Town. Only this time, rather than standing alongside me dressed in formal wedding attire, he was beside me in a long pine box.

In addition to the fine qualities of seriousness, conscientiousness and formality as befits the headmaster of a leading school, my friend was possessed of a wicked sense of humour.

As I drank a toast to my absent friend at our luncheon following the funeral I was struck by the deep irony of it all. What a macabre, but perfect, ending he had chosen with which to round out our mutual circle of life!



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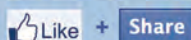
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